

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

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**January 10, 2007**

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Local Government Officials  
Members of the General Public

**FROM:** Lynn Jacobs  
Director

**SUBJECT: Development and Certification of a Second and Additional  
Version of the Model Universal Design Checklist**

Assembly Bill 1400 (Chapter 648 of Statutes of 2003) adopted Section 17959.6 of the Health & Safety Code. This law requires California builders constructing new for-sale residential units to provide a "checklist" of universal accessibility features to home buyers. The Department of Housing and Community considered input regarding universal design from various individuals and organizations with interests in universal design and its use and, in October, 2005, developed and certified the first model universal design checklist.

Since that time, the Department has received additional comments regarding the 2005 Checklist, particularly with respect to the necessity of a summary. After considering that information, and also reviewing the checklist for other ambiguities or inadequacies, a new 2007 Checklist has been developed. This Checklist retains the clarity and specificity of the original, but is organized differently for ease of use by consumers and builders.

Having carefully considered all relevant information and comments to the Department during the model checklist development and subsequent use, I hereby certify the attached "2007 Model Universal Design Checklist", dated January, 2007, as one which may be used voluntarily in substantially the same form by any homebuilder, pursuant to section 17959.6 of the Health and Safety Code. Both this 2007 Checklist and the original 2005 Checklist are deemed to comply with Section 17959.6 of the Health and Safety Code.